

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Farhad Azimzadeh)
MEETING DATE: February 13, 2008

ITEM: 5

SUBJECT: City of Petaluma - Hearing to Consider Mandatory Minimum Penalty for Discharge in Violation of Effluent Limitations

CHRONOLOGY: Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) Complaints issued in October 2000, February 2002, August 2003, and July 2004

DISCUSSION: The City violated its permit ten times during the period between February 2005 and September 2007. Of these violations, four are subject to a mandatory minimum penalty. In December 2007, we issued a complaint to the City assessing \$12,000 in mandatory minimum penalties (Appendix A).

These violations were caused by excessive inflow and infiltration after storm events, operator error, and unexplained events. In response, the City has initiated major collection system and plant upgrades, retrained its operators, and continued closely tracking plant performance. Specifically, the City completed replacing 4,000 feet of main sewer pipelines in September 2007, and will complete the remaining replacement of deteriorated sewer pipelines by the end of 2008. The target completion date for the treatment plant upgrades is June 2009. In sum, the City has initiated major plant upgrades and the replacement of deteriorated sewer pipelines that have been the primary cause of the City's violations. Therefore, the minimum penalty is sufficient.

The City has waived its right to a hearing (Appendix B) and will pay the \$12,000 penalty to the State's Cleanup and Abatement Account by March 14, 2008.

RECOMMEND-
ATION: No action is necessary.

File Number: 2149.4006(FA)
Appendices: A. Complaint No. R2-2007-0084
B. Signed Waiver

Appendix A

Appendix B